

found. To be current, a lead risk assessment must be no older than 12 months.

The EPA's RRP regulations pertain to renovation of pre-1978 housing. Contractors and maintenance staff working at PHAs and private housing who are carrying out renovation or painting that disturbs paint in homes and child-occupied facilities built before 1978 must be certified, follow specific work practices, and provide pre-renovation education to occupants.

PHAs cannot exclude families with young children from participating in housing programs because of the lead-based requirements, or require parents to provide information about child blood levels before offering housing.

HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing has appointed two coordinators at the headquarters office, Nora McArdle (Nora.C.McArdle@hud.gov, or 202-402-3967) and Tobey Zimmer (Tobey.J.Zimmer@hud.gov, or 202-402-6230).

PIH Notice 2011-44 is at http://nlihc.org/doc/Lead_Paint_Notice.pdf

More information about lead-based paint hazards, see the Healthy Homes entry on page 97 of the 2011 Advocates' Guide, <http://www.nlihc.org/doc/2011-Advocates-Guide.pdf>

USICH

USICH to Host Webinar on Role of Public Housing Agencies

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) will host a webinar, "Role of PHAs in Ending Homelessness," on August 11. The webinar will feature directors of public housing agencies that are using mainstream resources to form collaborative partnerships in order to assist people who are experiencing or have formerly experienced homelessness.

The webinar will begin at 2 pm ET.

For more information and to register, visit <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/286929630>

FROM THE FIELD

Delaware Advocates Accomplish Wins in State Budget

Delaware advocates, including the Delaware Housing Coalition (DHC), an NLIHC state coalition partner, are celebrating the success of their work to secure funding for key housing programs in the FY12 state budget. These wins include funds

for foreclosure and housing counseling, and the new State Rental Assistance Program (SRAP). The state's overall budget for housing is larger than in previous years. Advocates attribute this to their work with Governor Jack Markell (D), with targeted state legislators, and the availability of funds from the state's Bond Bill.

Advocates began the legislative session with great concern due to the strain of the continuing foreclosure crisis and the apparent lack of state revenue to address the crisis, in addition to other persisting housing issues. The Nonprofit Housing Agenda, a project of the DHC comprised of 12 state and local organizations dedicated to affordable housing advocacy, met before the legislative session to develop a strategy to make affordable housing a priority in the budget.

After the release of Gov. Markell's proposed budget, which included significant support for affordable housing, the State Administration announced the availability of revenue related to abandoned properties taken over by state government. This allowed for the largest Bond Bill in recent years, creating an additional source of funding to be used for infrastructure and other projects that would promote job creation. DHC's Nonprofit Housing Agenda lobbyist, a specialist in budget and finance, urged legislators to support the Governor's budget and lobby for additional funds.

While funding for foreclosure prevention and housing counseling was not in the original budget bill, successful lobbying by advocates resulted in \$615,600 in general funds being appropriated for these activities. The state recently passed a new law requiring automatic foreclosure mediation, but did not provide funding for housing counseling. In addition, HUD's budget for housing counseling was eliminated in the FY11 budget earlier this year, leaving the state's housing counseling agencies without the annual support of \$350,000. Advocates were able to leverage these issues as an advocacy platform, and used statistics showing the positive impact counselors have in foreclosure mediation to persuade legislators.

The SRAP, a new program replacing a successful pilot program called 'Step Up,' provides rental vouchers to people moving out of the state's psychiatric center, persons with disabilities, children aging out of foster care, and the chronically homeless. Gov. Markell proposed \$1.5 million to continue the program, an amount that advocates know will not provide sufficient new housing opportunities to meet the needs of chronically homeless people. DHC advocated the program be funded at \$3 million, the amount requested by the state housing authority. This would have allowed all current program recipients to remain in the program and increased the amount of SRAP vouchers by 25%. Lawmakers did not meet advocates' request, keeping funding for SRAP at the governor's requested level.

Advocates supported Gov. Markell's request of \$4 million in the Bond Bill for the Housing Development Fund (HDF), the state's housing trust fund, which already receives more than \$4 million per year in dedicated funds from document recording fees and the general fund. Lawmakers met the \$4 million request and an additional \$10 million in one-time special funds to leverage other funding sources, such as Low Income Housing Tax Credits and tax-exempt bonds. As a result the HDF will provide almost \$20 million to address affordable housing needs in the state.

"In addition to significant new, one-time resources to preserve multifamily housing in Delaware, we were also able to find support for a new program, the rental assistance program, which also will serve extremely low income households," said Ken Smith, Executive Director of DHC. "Both of these programs are wise, forward-looking economic investments. In addition, we are pleased that our hard-pressed housing counseling network has received some temporary relief. In the coming year, we will be working with legislators to help SRAP receive line item status in the budget. We appreciate the Governor's attention to the state's housing needs and will continue to work with him and members of the General Assembly to ensure affordable housing programs receive the funds they need to succeed."

For more information contact Ken Smith, Executive Director of the Delaware Housing Coalition, at dhc@housingforall.org.

RESOURCES

Residential Segregation Patterns Found Across Many Metropolitan Areas

A recent study of census data finds that persistent neighborhood-level racial segregation cannot be explained by income differences alone. The report, *Separate and Unequal: The Neighborhood Gap for Blacks, Hispanics and Asians in Metropolitan America*, is part of the US2010 initiative at Brown University to evaluate socioeconomic changes over time. The report aims to address two questions: first, to what extent does residential segregation stem from income differences? And second, to what extent are segregated neighborhoods unequal?

The study covers metropolitan areas and examines segregation using two indicators of different racial groups by neighborhood, isolation and contact. The neighborhood is defined as the census tract where each household lives as well as adjacent census tracts. Isolation is measured by estimating the percentage of the neighborhood population made up of the same racial group. Conversely, contact is measured by the proportion of non-Hispanic whites in the neighborhood.

The study's findings demonstrate that segregation continues

to affect the composition of neighborhoods. While black households are slightly less isolated from other racial groups now than in 1990, they tend to live in neighborhoods with a smaller proportion of white households today (39.8%) than in 1990 (41.7%). Instead, they are more likely to live in close proximity to other minority groups, Asians and Hispanics. Affluent black households are only marginally less isolated than poor black households.

Neighborhood disparities are measured using a comparison of poverty rates. The study suggests that neighborhood poverty level disparities are a key indicator of more widespread inequities such as unequal access to education, health and other important resources. According to the report, white households tend to live in neighborhoods with very low poverty levels (11%, on average) regardless of their individual household income level. Conversely, poor black households live in neighborhoods with poverty levels of 22% and, furthermore, affluent black households live in neighborhoods with poverty rates of 14%.

Across the board, black households are more likely to live in areas with a higher level of poverty than white households in every one of the fifty metropolitan areas with the largest black populations. In some communities, such as Newark (NJ), the black households are three and a half times more likely to live in area of higher poverty than whites.

On the whole, the report concludes that patterns of segregation remain entrenched across many metropolitan areas. Furthermore, attaining affluence does not reduce disparities; as minority households gain wealth, residential patterns remain virtually the same and neighborhood based inequities continue.

The study can be found on Brown University's website at: <http://www.s4.brown.edu/us2010/Data/Report/report0727.pdf>

NLIHC NEWS

NLIHC Welcomes New Members

Welcome to these new members who joined in July 2011:
Abraham Lincoln Neighborhood Development Corporation,
New York, NY

Shirley Best, Danbury, CT

Community Teamwork, Inc., Lowell, MA

Paul DeLuca, Danbury, CT

Phyllis Fusco, Waterbury, CT

Ruth Hoggard, Danbury, CT

Anne Hutwohl, Danbury, CT

Carol Leary, Jamaica Plain, MA

Rebekah Mason, Houston, TX

New Jersey Tenants Organization, Hackensack, NJ

Ana Velasquez, Danbury, CT